

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

TOWN OF EXETER, N. H.,

FOR THE

Financial Year Ending March 1, 1877,

WITH THE REPORTS OF THE

CHIEF ENGINEER, THE TREASURER OF THE
ROBINSON FEMALE SEMINARY, THE TOWN
LIBRARY COMMITTEE AND THE SUPER-
INTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

ALSO, A REPORT OF THE

Prudential Committee of District No. 1.

EXETER, N. H.

GAZETTE STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT,
1877.

University of New Hampshire
Library

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TOWN OFFICERS.

SELECTMEN,

WILLIAM B. MORRILL, TREASURER,
NATHANIEL G. GILMAN,
OLIVER L. GIDDINGS.

TOWN CLERK,

WILLIAM H. BELKNAP.

COLLECTOR OF TAXES,

JOSEPH N. HEAD.

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

ALBERT C. PERKINS,
CHARLES BURLEY,
GEORGE A. TITCOMB.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE,

BRADBURY L. CILLEY,
CHARLES MARSEILLES.

LIBRARIAN,

ANNIE PALMER.

AUDITORS,

JEWETT CONNER,
WILLIAM M. HUNNEWELL.

JANITOR,

ROBERT CARTER.

ENGINEERS,

BENJAMIN L. MERRILL, CHIEF,
JACOB CARLISLE,
CHARLES LANE,
ANDREW J. FOGG,
GARDINER GILMAN,
SAMUEL S. THYNG, CLERK.

POLICE OFFICERS,

WOODBIDGE O. PERKINS,
JOHN CONNER,
EDMUND THURSTON,
MADISON SLEEPER,
B. A. ELLISON,
JOSEPH A. PALMER,
OTIS T. BUTRICK.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
BY THE SELECTMEN

For the Year Ending March 1, 1877.

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Town Bonds and Coupons,	\$3401 00
Notes and interest,	3228 98
Oliver L. Giddings, Dam, Robinson Seminary,	1000 00
Discount on taxes,	532 73
Exeter Gas Light Co., 1875, balance,	854 25
James Pike, land damages,	30 00
W. H. Harris, sheep killed by dogs,	7 00
S. J. Perkins, " " " "	6 00
Thomas Schiniek, land damages,	5 00
Heirs Samuel Mason,	100 17
Non-resident taxes worked out,	64
Building Committee of engine houses,	500 00

\$9165 77

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid Prudential Committee, Dist. No. 1,	\$7052 57
“ “ “ “ 3,	216 00
“ “ “ “ 4,	201 06
“ “ “ “ 5,	301 69
“ “ “ “ 6,	196 86
	<hr/>
	\$7968 78
Appropriation Literary Fund,	\$7968 78
	<hr/>

TOWN LIBRARY.

Paid Library Committee,	\$500 00
Appropriation,	\$500 00
	<hr/>

EXETER GAS LIGHT COMPANY.

Paid W. W. West, Superintendent,	\$325 00
Balance unexpended,	325 00
	<hr/>
	\$650 00
Appropriation,	650 00
	<hr/>

STATE TAX.

Paid Solon A. Carter, State Treasurer,	\$4900 00
Appropriation,	\$4900 00
	<hr/>

COUNTY TAX.

Paid George E. Lane, County Treasurer,	\$4979 48
Appropriation,	\$4979 48
	<hr/>

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid Engineers,	\$ 90 00
Fountain No. 1,	642 00
Union No. 2,	478 00
Eagle Steamer No. 1,	178 00
Pioneer No. 1,	138 00
Hook & Ladder,	128 00
Blake Hose Company,	495 00
Tilton & Fleming,	82 71
C. W. Young,	77 17
Edward Charlesworth, Engineer,	50 00
Edward Charlesworth, “	12 25
Charles J. Smith, “	50 47
E. O. Lovering, coal,	47 44
O. D. Witherell, “	23 00
Woodbury Berry,	23 00
Perkins & Co.,	19 50
Jerry Carter,	17 50
James I. Watson,	15 90
E. G. Lane,	12 50
Exeter Machine Works,	10 74
Dennis Murphy,	10 50
C. W. Colbath,	9 00
H. A. Coburn,	8 00
Eben French,	7 00
John Flanagan,	7 00
W. B. Greenleaf,	6 00
Exeter Gas Light Company,	5 95
Charles H. Harris,	5 00
Jerry Carter,	5 00
Charles H. Harris,	4 00
Edmund Thurston,	4 00
C. H. Towle,	3 75
John C. Dutch, wood,	5 50
Boston & Maine Railroad,	3 61

Paid C. W. Young,	3 45
G. W. Furnald,	2 50
C. K. Fifield,	10 00
W. O. Perkins,	4 00
Exeter Gas Light Company,	2 55
Edward Charlesworth,	2 25
John Callahan,	2 00
J. N. B. Crummett,	2 00
Jerry W. Smith,	2 00
Asa Swett,	2 00
Roswell Peavey,	2 00
John F. Palmer,	2 00
Boston & Maine Railroad,	1 50
E. T. Garland,	1 10
S. A. Crummett,	1 00
Boston & Maine Railroad, rent of land,	1 00
Exeter Manufacturing Co., " " "	1 00
John S. Hayes,	2 00
Sylvester Cram,	2 00
C. N. Colbath,	30 50
Charles E. Carrier,	20 85
Charles Lane,	14 55
J. I. Watson,	4 00
Exeter Machine Works,	2 75
Jacob Carlisle,	6 50
Exeter Iron Foundry,	9 39
Woodbury Berry,	4 00
Woodbury Berry,	17 00
John McAmisland,	2 00
Levi G. Towle,	21 00
A. J. Fogg,	4 00
Josiah J. Folsom	5 00
C. D. Towle,	4 50

Paid J. L. Smith,	2 75	
		<u>\$2870 62</u>
Appropriation,	\$2000 00	
From Contingent Fund,	870 62	
		<u>\$2870 62</u>

HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES AND SIDEWALKS.

Paid Brown & Warren, plank,	\$568 91
John Flanagan,	478 39
Oliver L. Giddings, filling Lincoln St.,	317 00
Dennis Shea, tile,	240 00
Brown & Warren, lumber,	216 50
Oliver L. Giddings,	113 25
Gray & Cram, edge stones,	101 25
Oliver L. Giddings,	92 75
Samuel W. Leavitt, tile,	85 20
S. A. Brown,	60 00
William S. Brown,	56 25
John Flood,	51 50
John M. Wadleigh,	49 50
Est. George S. Yeaton, gravel,	41 75
L. B. Smith,	40 00
Daniel Smith, breaking roads, &c.,	40 77
Zebulon G. Thing,	40 00
John W. Hall, old account,	40 00
John F. Palmer,	39 88
E. O. Lovering,	28 80
John S. Pike, breaking roads,	25 00
John Tilton,	23 00
John Gilman,	32 25
G. W. Nason,	19 37
Daniel A. Shaw,	16 63

Paid John W. Hall,	14 25
Thomas Warburton,	11 84
John W. Hall,	12 50
James W. Moulton, breaking roads,	10 00
C. H. Flood,	11 25
W. P. Moulton,	7 00
John T. G. Haley,	7 00
John F. Towle, breaking roads,	7 75
Christopher Elliott,	6 75
John Flanagan,	6 00
C. H. Flood,	75
L. B. Smith,	19 50
Christopher Elliott,	32 50
John Flood,	50 25
Charles H. Flood,	37 40
John Tilton,	72 00
William A. Moore,	35 62
Michael Allen,	13 12
Edward Giddings,	57 25
Estate Joseph T. Gilman,	24 66
A. H. Weeks,	2 06
George W. Wiggin, breaking roads,	38 72
Jacob Carlisle, 1875,	147 80
Exeter Iron Foundry,	7 15
Jacob Carlisle,	18 00
Exeter Iron Foundry,	29 97
Joseph O. March, breaking roads,	21 25
William Conner, gravel,	15 75
Noah Barker, work on bridges,	41 71
Jewett Conner, 1875,	14 97
Noah Barker, breaking roads,	34 50
Jewett Conner, " " "	20 80
Roswell Peavey, " " "	24 90
L. B. Smith,	102 27

Paid B. F. Swasey, breaking roads, 1875,	29 10
John T. G. Haley, “ “	16 85
J. W. Robinson, “ “	6 00
John Coffin,	4 87
Nicholas Rollins, breaking roads,	34 72
John W. Hall,	50 58
Gilman Barker, on account,	105 00
A. Merrill & Sons,	9 68
George W. Fernald, on account,	53 95
Edward Giddings, 1875,	27 00
Josiah J. Folsom,	15 00
	<u>\$4,133 18</u>
Appropriation,	\$1,000 00
From contingent fund,	3,133 18
	<u>\$4,133 18</u>

POLICE AND CONSTABLES.

Paid W. O. Perkins, Police officer,	\$46 00
Edmund Thurston, “	49 50
John Conner, “	39 50
Madison Sleeper, “	23 50
Joseph A. Palmer, “	38 00
B. A. Ellison, “	31 75
A. Wood, rent, “	50 00
W. S. Brown, notifying Town Officers,	20 00
Exeter Gas Light Co.,	11 40
Thomas Leavitt, Justice,	9 00
E. S. Durgin,	8 00
F. Palmer,	5 50
D. A. Shaw, Special Police,	3 00
John W. Hall, “	3 00
E. A. Leavitt, “	3 00
A. J. Currier, “	3 00

Paid Sewell L. Day,	“	3 00	
Jere Carter,	“	3 00	
Michael Foley,	“	3 00	
Eben French,	“	3 00	
B. G. Kelly,	“	3 00	
Orville R. Drew,	“	3 00	
C. K. Fifield,	“	3 00	
Jefferson Maxwell,	“	3 00	
B. G. Kelly, Nov.	“	3 00	
O. R. Drew, Nov.	“	3 00	
John S. Hayes,	“	3 00	
A. J. Currier, Nov.	“	3 00	
Geo. A. Carlisle,	“	3 00	
Stephen C. Gray,	“	3 00	
Albert Rankin, Mar.			
and Nov.	“	6 00	
I. M. Watson,	“	3 00	
Woodbury Berry,		5 00	
W. O. Perkins, Fees Justice Trials,		31 89	
Joseph A. Palmer,	“	10 74	
W. O. Perkins, setting glass, Lock-up,		2 00	
John F. Palmer, Special Police,		3 00	
A. J. Fogg,	“	3 00	
Wm. M. Hunnewell, Justice Fees,		10 50	
		<hr/>	\$461 36
From contingent fund,			\$461 36

EXPENSES OF TOWN HALL.

Paid Robert Carter,	\$138 38	
Gas Bills,	149 63	
E. O. Lovering, Coal,	70 00	
Balance carried to contingent fund,	26 82	
	<hr/>	\$385 33
Receipts for use of Town Hall,		\$385 33
		<hr/>

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid E. Folsom & Co.	\$194 20
Insurance,	125 00
Kelly & Gardner,	80 64
John Johnston, ringing bell, 1875,	75 00
Moses N. Collins Post,	75 00
Chase Wiggin, Assessor,	62 00
W. H. Belknap, bal. Town Clerk 1875,	62 50
C. W. Young,	19 75
W. W. West,	15 66
C. G. Conner, Moderator,	15 00
Geo. W. Weston,	11 00
A. W. Dudley,	10 00
Frank Walker,	6 50
C. W. Young,	8 25
Auditors,	8 00
Perkins & Co.	3 25
Samuel Peavey,	2 61
J. P. Elkins,	1 75
Geo. W. Weston,	1 00
R. S. Peavey,	1 00
A. W. Dudley,	6 50
Banfield Fowestall & Co.	22 70
David M. Quimby,	25 00
John W. Getchell,	24 59
David E. Quimby,	3 60
I. M. Watson,	13 90
A. J. Currier,	15 00
Selectmen,	300 00
N. G. Gilman,	37 50
W. O. Perkins,	39 75
Exeter Cornet Band,	10 00
Hannah Brown,	8 00
Charles Marseilles on account,	100 00
W. B. Morrill,	88 30

Paid O. L. Giddings,	18 00	
R. M. Yale,	13 00	
C. D. Towle,	4 00	
A. J. Fogg,	11 00	
Gilman Marston, on account,	108 50	
Ellison & Warburton,	5 60	
Insurance,	143 75	
School Committee,	80 00	
W. H. Belknap, Town Clerk,	195 50	
Geo. E. Lane,	36 87	
	<hr/>	\$2,041 92
Appropriation,	1,800 00	
From contingent fund,	241 92	
	<hr/>	\$2,041 92
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

Paid Mrs. John Leavitt,	\$104 00
John C. Dutch, wood,	72 96
Eunice Bickford,	72 75
John C. Dutch, wood,	62 38
Mrs. Batchelder,	53 75
W. O. Perkins,	28 80
Dr. C. C. Odlin,	24 75
Mary White,	22 00
Dr. A. Carroll,	21 75
Dr. C. C. Odlin,	14 67
Dr. E. Bartlett,	15 00
Crockett & Downing,	17 50
Boston & Maine Railroad,	13 35
Sarah Brown,	8 00
J. C. Dutch, wood,	7 00
Betsy O. Marsh,	13 75
Kelly & Gardner,	4 94

Paid Exeter Gas Light Company,	2 98	
Alva Wood, rent,	50 00	
E. G. Lane,	1 50	
Pinkham & Wingate,	2 00	
Insane Asylum,	120 00	
George W. Lane,	15 00	
Estate Nathaniel Gilman,	225 37	
B & M. Railroad,	6 00	
F. M. Davis,	10 60	
W. B. Morrill,	10 65	
Edmund Thurston, taking care of tramps	15 50	
John Conner, " "	5 75	
Joseph A. Palmer, " "	10 25	
W. O. Perkias, " "	11 00	
Madison Sleeper, expense of tramp,	2 40	
T. B. Hoyt,	5 00	
Edmund Thurston,	3 25	
Dr. E. Bartlett,	6 00	
Overseers,	100 00	
Balance carried to contingent fund,	280 10	
		<hr/>
		\$1,440 70
Appropriation,	800 00	
From County of Rockingham,	640 70	
		<hr/>
		\$1,440 70
		<hr/>

RECEIPTS.

Taxes assessed for 1876, including non-resident, highway and dog taxes,	\$31,217 10
Borrowed money,	2,200 00
Railroad tax,	1,771 72
Savings Bank tax,	1,076 21
Literary Fund,	235 35
Insurance tax,	7 50
United States, rent of Court Rooms,	200 00
Rent of Town Hall,	385 33
County of Rockingham,	640 70
Cement pipe,	33 75
Coupons,	90 00
Methodist Society, Concrete sidewalk,	17 60
School District, No. 1, rent of land,	60 00
Outstanding taxes,	8,352 88
Exhibitor's License,	2 00
Heirs of Joseph L. Cilley,	42 50
Engine Lot,	500 00
Cash on hand March 1, 1876.	4,759 88
	<hr/>
	\$51,592 52

 RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURES.

Paid State tax,	\$4,900 00
County tax,	4,979 48
Town Bonds and Coupons,	3,401 00
Notes and interest,	3,228 98
Town Library,	500 00
Exeter Gas Light Co., 1875,	354 25
Discount on taxes,	532 73
Oliver L. Giddings,	1,000 00

Paid James Pike,		30	00
S. J. Perkins,		6	00
W. H. Harris,		7	00
Thomas Schenick,		5	00
Heirs to Samuel Mason,		100	17
Non-resident tax worked out,			64
Building Committee,		500	00
Support of Schools,		7,968	78
Fire Department,		2,870	62
Highways & Bridges,		4,133	18
Police and Constables,		461	36
Expenses of Town Hall,		358	51
Miscellaneous,		2,041	92
Support of the poor,		1,160	60
Exeter Gas Light Co.,		325	00
Abatement of taxes for 1869 & 1870,		587	61
" " 1871,		373	51
" " 1872,		155	89
" " 1873,		350	95
" " 1874,		547	88
" " 1875,		305	91
" " 1876,		70	13
Outstanding taxes,	1871,	83	53
" " 1872,		94	90
" " 1873,		593	17
" " 1874,		1,150	86
" " 1875,		629	01
" " 1876,		4,016	21
Cash,		3,767	74

\$51,592 52

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT.

The Engines and fire apparatus of the department are in good condition.

Several of the Reservoirs are of too small capacity to hold water sufficient to supply the Steam Fire Engine, but by the addition of a few hundred feet of hose, which have been purchased the last year so that the Steamer can be placed at those places where there is an abundant quantity of water, it is believed a larger portion of the town is better protected from fire than in any former year.

The board of Engineers have reduced the number of firemen during the year by taking five men from each the Fountain and Union companies. The department has been called out seven times at all of which the officers and members of the several companies have been prompt and orderly and have returned their apparatus to the places of deposite, always leaving the Engines and apparatus in condition for immediate use. Especially are the men belonging to the department to be commended for the neat and orderly manner in which the property committed to their charge is always to be found and for promptness and good order in working at fires, and courtesy to the board of Engineers when on duty.

Respectfully Submitted,

B. L. MERRILL, Chief Engineer.

REPORT OF THE TOWN LIBRARY COMMITTEE,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 13, 1877.

The Committee submit the following account of receipts and expenditures for the past year:

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand from last year,	\$ 39 86
Appropriation voted by the town,	500 00
Fines and catalogues,	5 03
	<hr/>
	\$544 89

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Librarian's salary,	\$125 00
Insurance,	18 75
Gas,	9 36
Fuel,	10 48
Binding old books,	15 00
Cleaning room,	8 79
Stationery and incidental expenses,	25 00
Preparing supplement,	25 00
Books,	231 10
	<hr/>
	\$468 48
Cash in hands of Committee,	76 41
	<hr/>
	\$544 89

A Supplement to the Town Library Catalogue has been prepared and is now in the printer's hands.

We respectfully recommend that \$500 be raised for the support of the Library for the coming year.

B. L. CILLEY,
CHARLES MARSEILLES, } *Committee.*

ROBINSON FEMALE SEMINARY.

To the Selectmen of Exeter :

The Treasurer of the Robinson Female Seminary begs leave to submit the following report of the receipts and expenditures for the year ending March 1, 1877.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand March 1, 1876,	\$1878 70
Received from Dividends,	7805 00
Tuitions,	315 00
Sale of grass, &c., Semina- ry grounds,	147 75
Rent of Pr. House,	118 03
Old books sold,	32 30
On Loan account,	250 00
For Twenty-five shares stock in Metropolitan National Bank, surrendered,	3125 00
	<hr/>
	\$13671 78

PAYMENTS.

SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Salaries of teachers,	\$7450 43
Engineer,	628 00
Janitress,	366 00
Fuel,	519 01
Gas,	30 18
French Class Entertainment,	32 50
Graduating Class Commencement expenses,	15 00
Exeter Cornet Band, " " "	50 00

Diplomas, Commencement expenses,	4 43
Town Hall Expenses, “ “	19 00
Police and attendance, “ “	11 00
Town Hall expenses and attendance, 1875,	24 25
Printing Catalogues,	62 50
“ and advertising,	41 63
Photographs and framing, Centennial Ex.,	25 00
Binding specimen work for “ “	14 50
Express and Exhibition expenses,	4 70
Travel on account of teacher,	4 50
Tuning Piano,	4 50
Express expenses on books, apparatus, &c.,	5 30
Chemicals,	11 82
Stationery,	27 41
Cartages and breaking roads,	18 75

\$9370 41

SEMINARY FURNITURE.

Glass cases,	\$37 00
Tellurium,	15 00
Clock,	7 00

\$59 00

Seminary Library,	\$106 44
School-book accounts,	\$130 57

SEMINARY EDIFICE.

Painting,	\$24 65
Repairs of steam apparatus,	22 86
Moving water ram in part,	14 70

\$62 21

SEMINARY GROUNDS.

Trees, shrubs, and plants,	\$49 60	
Labor,	22 00	
Gravel for roads, and cartage,	13 50	
Printing posters, &c.,	3 30	
	<hr/>	\$88 40

PRINCIPAL'S HOUSE.

Repairs on furnace,	43 50	
“ “ sink, pump,	18 24	
New register,	2 50	
	<hr/>	\$64 24

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Interest,	\$56 68	
Treasurer's salary,	480 00	
Secretary,	40 00	
Expenses to New York on account of stocks,	41 95	
Stock reports, postage and revenue stamps,	11 80	
	<hr/>	\$630 43
		<hr/>
		\$10511 70
Cash on hand,		\$3160 08
		<hr/>
		\$13671 78
		<hr/>

The following exhibit of the past and present value of the invested funds of the institution may be worthy of attention and consideration:

STOCK IN THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE STATE
OF NEW YORK.

The original 200 shares paid regular dividends of 8 per cent. per annum, up to Nov. 1, 1875, amounting to \$13,200 in 8½ years. A series of heavy losses compelled the Bank to reduce its capital sixty per cent., and our stock stands on the books 80 shares at \$100 each—\$8,000. The latest quoted value is \$121 each, or \$9,680. No dividend was received during the year past, but it is expected to divide its earnings at an early day.

STOCK IN THE METROPOLITAN NATIONAL BANK,
NEW YORK.

This stock of which we held 100 shares has paid dividends of 12 and 10 per cent. per annum, or \$10,000 in 9 years. The Bank voted to reduce its capital one-fourth, paying back to stockholders \$125 each, for the shares surrendered. Twenty-five shares were therefore made over to the Bank, for which was received \$3 125.

The stock is now 75 shares, and at the latest market value, \$134 per share is worth \$10,050.

STOCK IN THE NATIONAL MECHANICS' BANK-
ING ASSOCIATION.

This stock 130 shares at \$50 each, or \$6,500, has paid dividends regularly to May, 1876, ten per cent. to May, 1871, eight per cent. to May, 1874, and six per cent. for two years, amounting to \$4,970. The dividend of November last was passed, but there is good reason to believe the Bank to be sound, though its profits in the past years have been small. At the latest quotation, \$75 per share, the stock is worth \$4875.

STOCK IN MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK, OF
NEW YORK.

This stock, 150 shares at \$50 each,—\$7,500, has paid dividends to the present time at the rate of ten per cent. for two and one half years, and eight per cent, for seven years, amounting to \$5775. The present market value is \$59½—\$8925.

STOCK IN NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE,
NEW YORK.

This stock, 500 shares at \$100 each—\$50,000, has paid at the rate of ten per cent. for three years, eight per cent. for five years, seven per cent. for one year, and one semi-annual of three per cent. The whole amount received is \$40,000. The present market value at \$116 is \$58,000. The directors propose to reduce the capital of this Bank, but have not yet taken decided action on the subject.

STOCK IN THE NATIONAL BANK OF NEW YORK.

This stock, 40 shares at \$100—\$4000, has paid the regular dividend of ten per cent. per annum, except that of January, 1877, which was four per cent. The whole amount of dividends received is \$3,760. The present market value is \$117—\$4,680.

STOCK IN THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL
COMPANY.

This stock, 600 shares at \$100 each,—\$60,000, has paid

Two	dividends, semi-annual, eight per cent.	\$9,600
One	“ “ six “ “	3,600
Fourteen	“ “ five “ “	42,000
One	“ “ extra	4,000
One	“ “ August, 1876, four per ct.	2,400
		<hr/>
		\$61,600
Profits from premiums on new stock sold,		\$23,700
		<hr/>
		\$85,300

No dividend was paid in February of this year, and the market value has fallen to \$48½ per share,—\$29,100.

The income of the Seminary, from the invested funds, for the year just closed, is \$7,805, against \$13,740 for the year ending March 1, 1876.

Respectfully Submitted,

CHARLES BURLEY, *Treasurer.*

Exeter, March 1, 1877.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES.

TO THE TOWN OF EXETER:—

The Robinson Female Seminary has continued through the past year with no change in the instructors, excepting that Miss Ellen M. Bartlett resigned during the Fall term, and the lectures given during the previous year in Physics and Chemistry were discontinued after the close of the Summer term. Abner Merrill, Esq., after serving the Town as a Trustee with great advantage to the Seminary and profit to the public from the time when the Board was organized, resigned his office in January of the present year. The number at present belonging to the Seminary in the different grades is as follows :

Grade 1, (the youngest)	39
2,	32
3,	35
4,	28
5,	11
6,	10
7,	14
8	11
	180
Post Graduates,	15
Pupils from out of town,	20
No. of pupils in French and German,	106
No. of pupils in Latin,	27
Whole number of pupils the current year,	201
Students of Languages only,	21
No. graduated in June 1876,	11

At the beginning of the Fall term in September, provision was made for giving instruction in French to the youngest pupils. A correct pronunciation can be acquired much better at an early age, and the general principles of the language can be easily learned. Two classes were formed; one of pupils from the three lowest grades has had thirty-six members; and one from grades 4 and 5 has had seventeen. They have each had two exercises a week mainly in speaking French, training particularly in the pronunciation. In the short time given to this study with the long interval between recitations, there has not been the opportunity for very great advancement. Enough however has been done to justify the belief that the experiment of allowing the study by pupils so young was a wise one, and that much more time might profitably be given to it at this point in the course of study.

The vacancy made by the resignation of Miss Bartlett was not filled, for reasons that appear in the Treasurer's report. She had the main supervision of Rhetoric, English Literature, and Composition. A part of the work that came in her department has been assumed by other teachers, but most of it has been dropped altogether. There is nothing in the course of study which when well conducted is capable of imparting to the young ladies the elements of a better or more valuable culture than the exercises connected with this department. One teacher might be well employed in Rhetoric and Composition, and nothing else, for the entire year, giving to the pupils personal supervision and criticism, and aiding in the formation of correct literary taste and good habits of reading. We trust we may be able to afford more advantages in this direction during the coming year.

Instruction has been given in Natural History to the lower grades of the school in a series of oral lessons given by Miss Bridge during the season when specimens could be readily obtained. These have been interesting and useful, and have served to quicken the observing powers of the pupils and lead them to

acquire for themselves valuable information. The instruction in the natural sciences is thorough and broad. The teachers take the pupils outside of the text books in Chemistry and Physics and impart a living knowledge of these subjects, which is likely to be permanent, and prove an incentive for future study in the same direction. There is need of fuller apparatus for illustration, especially in Physics. There is almost nothing to show the results of the most recent theories in regard to heat and light; the means of exhibiting the qualities of Electricity are also specially defective.

The text books in use are some of them bad, particularly the Readers for the lower grades. The selections are ill adapted to the purpose for which they are employed and far inferior to those used in our public schools. In view of the present condition of the funds we would recommend that those members of the Seminary who are able, should hereafter be required to furnish their own text books and stationery. There are already some parents who prefer that their children should own their books, and who decline to receive them from the Town. We cannot see why other interests should be sacrificed in order to supply books for those who are perfectly well able to pay for them.

THE FINANCES.

One year ago the financial condition of the Seminary was regarded as excellent. A debt that for a long time was a serious burden, had by close economy, been paid off. The Funds were apparently yielding good interest, and there was a prospect that there might be immediate provision made for extending and improving the course of instruction. On the evening of the annual Town meeting however, news came of the failure of a Bank in which some of the funds were invested, by which there was a considerable loss to us. Since that time the rapid depreciation of the stock of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Co., in which as seen from the Treasurer's report we have \$60,000, has crip-

pled us in our resources and justly alarmed all who have an interest in the welfare of the Seminary. An examination of the Treasurer's account will show that up to August last, this stock had been a valuable investment. It came from the hands of the Donor. The first year after it was received by the Trustees, it paid a dividend of 16 per cent. per annum. Since that time for nearly ten years, it paid a dividend of ten per cent, until last August, when the last semi-annual dividend of four per cent, was received. More than \$85,000 has been realized from this stock in the way of dividends and accrued profits, since it came into our possession. There has been since the last dividend was paid a gradual decline in the value of shares, until the quotations have fallen to less than 50 per cent. of the par value. Of course it can be seen that if a sale had been made one year ago we might have been great gainers, but the previous good history of the investment, and the large dividends that had been declared, made the Trustees reluctant to change the securities, unless upon a strong probability, that it would be safe to do so. In view of the large profits from the Company, and the confidence placed in it by many of the ablest financiers, the calamity that has overtaken us must be regarded as one that could no more be foreseen than the destruction of property by hurricane or fire. The members of the Board have given themselves to the careful investigation of the affairs of the Company. The last published statements justify the hope that the stock will yet rally, and with an improvement in the business of the country, resume a sound footing. We have two things to guard against: a hasty and unadvised sale when the quotations are depressed, and likely to rise; a holding of the stocks longer when they touch a point above which they will not probably go. To these two points the trustees in co-operation with the best advice they could get, have applied themselves. We have a deficiency of \$6,000 in our annual revenue. We desire to address ourselves to the best means of meeting this deficiency, if possible, without impairing the useful-

ness and efficiency of the school. We shall do our utmost to effect this with the means at our command, and shall witness with regret any measures that will impair the value of the institution, as a means of discipline and culture. We are therefore reluctant to consider the reduction of the corps of teachers in numbers or capacity. The real value of a school is largely independant of expensive grounds and buildings. Put forty children into a clean log-cabin well lighted, warmed, and ventilated, with a competent kind-hearted instructor, and you do more for them, than when you put them into a modern educational palace, with all the attractions of expensive architecture, and attractive grounds, but with an indifferent teacher. We believe that the first thing to be secured, and the last thing to be given up, is the faithful, capable teacher. In our desire to economize, we doubt whether it will be good economy, when so much money is invested in the grounds and buildings and furniture, to lose the value of such investment by failing to retain instructors worthy of so great an expenditure. The vacancy in the Board of Trustees caused by the resignation of Mr. Merrill, is to be filled at our annual meeting, and an election made of a Trustee for seven years. We desire promptly to organize, to take in hand all the expenses as indicated in the Treasurer's report, cut them down to the lowest limit and do our best to meet expenses by our income. If our institution is to be at all worthy of the name of a Seminary it cannot lower the grade of attainment now required. It should rather advance it if it is to keep pace with other institutions designed to afford young ladies the means of a higher education.

The Treasurer's report is made more than usually full, on account of our desire that the condition of all the funds should be presented to the Town in the clearest light.

Among the men who have become voters in Exeter within the last six or eight years are many who are not familiar with the Will of Mr. Robinson, the Act of the Legislature in regard to it, and the votes of the Town in reference to it. These are collect-

ed and published in this report in order to refresh the memories of those who were voters when the bequest was received and to give information to all that are interested. From this will be seen :—

The exact purpose for which the money was given to the Town.

The obligation which the Town assumed in reference to money spent for other purposes besides the salaries of teachers.

The authority given to the Trustees and the duties imposed upon them.

GILMAN MARSTON, JOHN E. GARDNER, ALBERT C. PERKINS, WM. G. PERRY, SAMUEL W. LEAVITT,	}	<i>Trustees.</i>
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EXTRACT FROM THE WILL OF THE LATE WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Fourth.—The residue or balance of my property, I give and bequeath to the town of Exeter, in the State of New Hampshire, and county of Rockingham, being the place of my nativity; the INCOME of SAID property, and NO MORE, to be appropriated forever, to the support of suitable and proper teachers for the only and sole instruction of females; and I most respectfully suggest that in admitting applicants, all other things being equal, always to give the preference to the poor and the orphan. I expect the town of Exeter will provide a suitable building for a female seminary, and that the INTEREST on the amount of money it will receive from my estate, will be appropriated for the payment of SUITABLE TEACHERS contemplated by me to be employed in instructing females. If the inhabitants of the town of Exeter act in accordance with my sugges-

tion, they will in a few years have a flourishing female seminary. In my poor opinion, there is too much partaking of the fancy in the education that females obtain, and I would most respectfully suggest such a course of instruction as will tend to make female scholars equal to all the practical duties of life; such a course of education as will enable them to compete, and successfully too, with their brothers throughout the world, when they have to take their part in the actual of life.

I have given my mite for this purpose, and if good comes of it I shall not have lived in vain. Having full confidence in the following gentlemen, I take the liberty of appointing them executors of this my last will and testament, to-wit: Hon. John P. King, Col. Henry H. Cumming, and Maurice Wilkinson, Esq.; and if practicable I beg them to act for me, and have the intentions of my will carried out, which appear to me to be so plain, that it will be almost impossible for any one to mistake."

AN ACT IN RELATION TO THE ROBINSON FEMALE SEMINARY.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives in general court convened,

WHEREAS, William Robinson, a native of the town of Exeter, in the county of Rockingham, has lately deceased, and by his last will, after sundry devices and bequests, gave to said town all the residue of his property and estate, in trust, to establish and maintain with the income thereof a school in said town, for the education of females, as provided in said will; and

WHEREAS, said town have accepted said residuary legacy upon said trust, have by a committee thereof, chosen for the purpose, effected a compromise of certain claims of the widow of said Robinson and others against said estate, have by sundry votes and resolutions determined to establish said school under the name of "The Robinson Female Seminary," and

prescribed regulations for the admission of pupils therein, confided the regulation and government thereof, and management and control of the funds and property derived from said estate, to a board of seven trustees, to be elected by said town, one at each future annual meeting thereof and to hold office for seven years, which board are to appoint a treasurer of said Robinson Female Seminary, prescribes the duties of said trustees and said treasurer,—and elected the following persons to serve as such trustees, namely: Abner Merrill, for seven years; Joshua Getchell, for six years; Charles H. Bell, for five years; Amos Tuek, for four years; Nathaniel Gordon, for three years; Alva Wood for two years, and Noah Hooper for one year, from the second Tuesday of March, 1867, or until others are chosen and qualified in their stead, respectively, who have been duly sworn and entered upon their duties as said trustees, who have with said trust-funds established a school in said town for the instruction of females, and have appointed Charles Burley treasurer of said seminary, who has given bond as required by the vote of said town; therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in general court convened:

SEC. 1. That the said town of Exeter be authorized and empowered to accept, receive, and manage said property derived from the estate of said William Robinson, upon the said trust, and to establish and maintain said Robinson Female Seminary from the income thereof, according to said votes and resolutions, and any future votes of the town aforesaid, so far as the same do not conflict with the provisions of said will and the trust created by it, and to erect suitable buildings for said seminary, and to hire money therefor by vote of the town, and to appoint all such agents and officers, and to do all such acts as may be necessary to carry out the intentions of said testator in regard thereto; and that the said acts and doings of the town and their committee, trustees, treasurer, and their agents in the

premises, be, and hereby are confirmed and made valid and effectual, so far as the same are in accordance with the provisions of said will, as if the same had been done under prior authority given therefor by an act of the Legislature duly passed and approved ; and that the said persons elected as trustees, and appointed treasurer, hold their said offices for the term, and with the powers provided by said votes and resolutions of said town respectively, so far as as they are consistent with the provisions of said will ; and this act shall take effect upon its passage. (Approved June 27, 1867.)

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE TOWN.

NOVEMBER 24, 1866.

Resolved, That with the funds received or to be received from the estate of the late William Robinson, the town of Exeter proceed to establish an institution for the education of females, and that in honor of the donor of the funds the same shall be called "THE ROBINSON FEMALE SEMINARY."

NOVEMBER 24, 1866.

Resolved, That the arrangements and character of said seminary shall be such, that all female children, residents in Exeter, not less than nine years of age, and qualified for admission to the common grammar schools, shall have the privilege of admission to said seminary, free of tuition and all other charges, and to instruction therein in all the branches of a thorough education ; and provision may be made for the instruction of other females, on payment of tuition or otherwise, at the discretion of the trustees.

DECEMBER 15, 1866.

Resolved, That the regulation and government of said seminary be confided to a board of seven trustees, serving as such without compensation, selected without regard to religious or

party divisions, citizens of Exeter, who shall be chosen by ballot by the legal voters of the town, and after the first election shall be chosen at the annual State elections, and shall hold office for seven years, in such manner that one vacancy and one election shall take place annually after the next annual meeting; and it shall be the duty of the selectmen, after the election of the first board of trustees, to determine by lot the term of time for which one of those trustees shall hold office, so that one shall go out of office annually. In all cases of vacancy in the office of trustee, the selectmen shall fill the same by appointment, until the next annual meeting, at which time the town shall make a new election. Said trustees shall have the usual power of trustees in such cases in regard to the employment of teachers and the general oversight of the affairs of said seminary, subject to instructions by votes of the town upon all subjects; and if any trustee or trustees shall refuse or neglect to act in accordance with such votes of the town, or shall conduct improperly in the opinion of the town, either in regard to the investment of the funds or the management of the school, the town may remove such trustee or trustees by vote and elect others in their place, at any annual or other town meeting, an article having been inserted in the warrant for that purpose.

*as trustee
in the town.*

No sale of securities and no investment of funds shall be made without written authority, signed by at least four of the trustees, filed with the treasurer, and a memorandum thereof with the names of the signers entered upon the books of the treasurer, and no part of said funds shall ever be loaned to any of the trustees. It shall be the duty of said trustees to apply to the next session of the Legislature, to be held in June next, for the passage of such act as may be necessary to enable the town to establish a school for the instruction of females, agreeably to the will of the late William Robinson, and to appoint all necessary officers and agents, and prescribe their duties for the man-

agement of the same, and confirming such action as the town may have taken on the subject.

DECEMBER 15, 1866.

Resolved, That the treasurer shall be appointed by the trustees, shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in the sum of \$50,000, with surities approved by the trustees and the selectmen of the town, and shall have the custody of the funds of the institution, and receive and pay out all moneys. He shall make a report annually to the trustees and to the selectmen, setting forth the condition of the fund, a list of the investments and the several amounts thereof, and the aggregate amount of the whole, the arrearages of interest due on any portion thereof, and the amount and character of the expenditures for the year preceding. It shall be the duty of the treasurer whenever requested by the selectmen, to exhibit to them his books and papers, and to give them full information in regard to all things respecting said funds; and it shall be the duty of the selectmen, in case of the discovery of any diversion or any mismanagement of the funds, to take measures to remedy the same by application to the courts for an injunction, or for the removal of the trustees according as in their judgment the case may require.

DECEMBER 15, 1866.

WHEREAS, The legacy given to the town by the late Mr. Robinson amounted in one year after his death, when it became payable, to much less than \$200,000, and since then a large amount of income has accrued therefrom, which is not required for the payment of teachers for the school contemplated by him; and

WHEREAS, The future income of the sum of \$200,000 will, if prudently managed, leave a yearly surplus after the payment of the current compensation of teachers in said school, and

WHEREAS, A considerable yearly sum is expected to be derived from the tuition of pupils from abroad in said school,

which said accrued income, said future surplus income, and said tuition money are understood to be properly and legally applicable to any purposes in general furtherance of the design and interests of said school; therefore,

Resolved, That the town will set aside and treat as the capital of the Robinson fund the sum of \$200,000, and will apply the balance over that sum of the funds which may be received from Mr. Robinson's estate, the future surplus income of said capital, and the money received for tuition as aforesaid, to the purchase of real estate, the erection and furnishing of buildings, and the procuring of books and apparatus for said school. And the trustees are authorized to use a portion of said fund, to an amount not exceeding forty-five thousand dollars for that purpose, which amount and interest thereon at six per cent. per annum, shall be repaid from said future surplus income and said tuition money as speedily as may be.

AUGUST 29, 1867.

Voted that any four of the trustees for the time being, of the Robinson Female Seminary, be authorized and empowered to transfer in writing in the name and behalf of the town, the bank stocks and other stocks which were assigned to the town from the estate of William Robinson by his executor, Maurice Wilkinson, and any other stocks and securities which may hereafter be obtained, with the proceeds thereof, or of funds derived from said estate.

AUGUST 29, 1867.

Voted that the selectmen of the town be, and they are hereby authorized and instructed to borrow of the trustees of the Robinson Female Seminary out of that portion of the income of the funds of said seminary which remains after all expenditure for the support of teachers has been made in accordance with the will of the donor of said funds, a sum not exceeding fifty thousand dollars, the same to be used in erecting suitable

buildings and providing suitable furniture and apparatus for said seminary. And that the selectmen give to said trustees the note or obligation of the town for said money whereby the town shall be bound to pay interest upon the money thus borrowed to said trustees, whenever in the judgment of said trustees said interest shall be needed for the support of suitable and proper teachers for the instruction of females, according to the intention of the donor of said funds.

And the selectmen are hereby authorized and instructed, to pay over said money when borrowed to said trustees and take a receipt therefor, signed by said trustees, specifying the purpose for which it is received by them, which receipt shall be recorded upon the records of the town.

And that the said trustees be, and they are hereby authorized and instructed with the money thus received from the selectmen, to erect or cause to be erected suitable buildings for said seminary upon the lot of land purchased for that purpose, and to provide suitable furniture and apparatus for the same.

And it shall be the duty of the trustees of said seminary to take and hold said note or obligation of the town for said money, and whenever the interest upon the same or any part thereof, shall in their judgment be needed for the support of teachers or for the benefit of said seminary, according to the intention of the donor of said funds, to collect the interest from the town or so much thereof as may be necessary, calling upon the selectmen for the same, and it shall be the duty of the selectmen when thus called upon to pay said interest, and they are hereby authorized to hire money on the credit of the town for that purpose.

NOVEMBER 3, 1868.

Resolved, That in addition to the sum of \$50,000 specified by a vote of the town passed on the 29th day of August, 1867, the selectmen be, and they are hereby authorized and instructed to borrow of the trustees of the Robinson Female Seminary out

of that portion of the funds of said seminary which remains after all expenditures for the support of teachers has been made in accordance with the will of the donor of said funds, a sum of money sufficient to complete the seminary building now in process of construction, to furnish the same with all necessary apparatus, and to put the walks, grounds and fences belonging to the town, for the use of said seminary, in proper condition. *Provided*, however, that in no case shall the trustees be allowed to reduce the capital of the seminary below the sum of \$200,000, as specified in the vote of the town heretofore passed.

And that the selectmen give to said trustees, the note or obligation of the town for said money, whereby the town shall be bound to pay interest upon the money thus borrowed, to said trustees, whenever in the judgment of said trustees said interest shall be needed for the support of suitable and proper teachers for the instruction of females, according to the intention of the donor of said funds.

And the selectmen are hereby authorized and instructed, to pay over said money when borrowed to said trustees and to take a receipt therefor, specifying the purpose for which it is received by them, which receipt shall be recorded upon the records of the town.

And the said trustees are hereby authorized and instructed to expend the money thus received according to the true intent of the town in the premises; and to hold the note or obligation of the town for the purposes more fully set forth in the vote of the town in relation to said \$50 000.

NOVEMBER 3, 1868.

Voted that the trustees of the Robinson Female Seminary be authorized to furnish the children of poor parents attending school at said seminary, with school books, upon application being made to them for that purpose.

MARCH 9, 1869.

Voted that the trustees of the Robinson Female Seminary

furnish books and stationery for all the scholars of this town attending said school.

MARCH 8, 1870.

Voted that the trustees of the Robinson Female Seminary be directed to prepare and present to the town at least one week before each annual election, a full report of the progress and condition of the school under their charge.

Resolved, That all scholars attending the seminary and boarding in town, whose parents are not actual residents of Exeter shall pay tuition, &c., the same as other non-residents, and in cases of charity it be left discretionary with the trustees, and that any scholar refusing to pay tuition for the present term, shall be expelled from the school at once.



R E P O R T
OF THE
Superintending School Committee.

TO THE TOWN OF EXETER :—

The Superintending School Committee submit the following report :

In April, 1876, the Selectmen reported the whole number of children between the ages of five and fifteen to be 580.

The largest number reported as attending any one term between the ages above named, is 499.

To account for the discrepancy, the large number of pupils in the Seminary belong to the town, under fifteen years of age, should be considered

The teachers for the year just closing, have been as follows :—

High School.—Mr. Albion Burbank.

Grammar School.—Mr. Sperry French.

Spring Street, Intermediate.—Miss Maria A. Buckingham.

Spring Street, Primary.—Miss Fannie Conner—Miss Jennie Harvey.

Plains Intermediate.—Miss Clara A. Haley.

Plains Primary.—Miss Mary A. Burnham.

Hall Place.—Miss Sarah Caverno.

Prospect Hill.—Mrs. Kate H. Davis.

Grove Street.—Miss Josephine A. Dustin.

School Street.—Miss Ellen M. Chase—Miss Annie R. Dearborn.

District No. 3.—Miss Alla A. Norris—Miss Lydia B. Judkins.

District No. 4.—Mrs. Ellen A. Bickford—Miss Stella C. Larkin.

District No. 5.—Miss Sarah K. Stevens—Miss Ida M. Sinclair.

District No. 6.—Miss Cleora F. Kimball.

As the Winter term is not finished when this report goes to the printer, the statistics for the entire year, cannot be given. The following table presents the attendance &c., for the first two terms.

		Length of School in weeks.	Whole No. Scholars,	Average No. Scholars,	Pupils in Reading.	Spelling.	Pennmanship.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.
High School	1st Term.	12	30	29	30	30	30	16		1
	2d, Term.	13	35	33	35	35				16
Grammar School.	1st Term.	12								
	2d. Term,	13	91	83	91	91	91	91	91	91
Spring Street, Intermediate School.	1st Term.	12	52	41	52	52	52	52	52	52
	2d. Term.	13	53	44	52	53	53	53	53	53
Spring Street, Primary School,	1st Term,	12	50	41	41	41	22	22	14	
	2d, Term.	13	34	29	28	29	8	15	8	
Plains, Intermediate, 2d. District.	1st, Term,	12	37	32	37	37	37	37	37	3
	2d, Term.	13	22	18	22	22	22	22	22	22
Plains Primary School,	1st, Term.	12	51	41	51	51	33	33	10	
	2d. Term.	13	42	37	42	42	24	24	20	
Hall Place,	1st, Term,	12	52	46	27	52	27	27	27	
	2d, Term.	13	41	32	24	40	24	24	14	
Prospect Hill,	1st, Term,	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	43	35	43	43	16	32	23	
	2d, Term,	31	31	17	31	31	17	17	7	
Grove Street,	1st. Term,	12	43	38	43	40	30	30	9	
	2d. Term,	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	40	31	40	40	32	32	12	
School Street,	1st. Term,	12	20	16	20	19	19	15	4	
	2d. Term,	13	32	25	32	32	32	21	9	
District No. 3.	1st. Term,	10	11	10	11	11	7	8	4	3
	2d. Term,	13	11	9	11	11	5	7	4	3
District No. 4,	1st. Term,	12	4	3	4	4	2	3	1	2
	2d, Term.	10	7	5	7	7	4	4	3	3
District No. 5.	1st. Term.									
	2d. Term.	10	17	13	17	17	17	6	14	5
District No. 6.	1st. Term.									
	2d. Term.	11	25	22	25	25	15	19	12	5
		11	24	22	24	24	16	19	14	5

The Public Schools of Exeter as at present arranged consist of one High School for boys, one Grammar School for boys, two Intermediate Schools and six Primary Schools; these are near the centre of the town. Besides there are four schools of mixed grades in the outlying districts.

THE HIGH SCHOOL.

This school has continued under the charge of Mr. Burbank, who in previous years has led the young men in thorough profitable work. The same elements of fidelity and conscientious care that have ever marked the instruction given by the present Principal, have been apparent during the past year. There has been no effort made for mere display; the aim of teacher and pupils has been steady and uniform towards useful culture. A good spirit pervades the atmosphere of the school, and an honorable ambition is manifest in the general bearing of the scholars and the earnestness with which they set themselves to their studies. Mr. Burbank has a most happy faculty of enlisting the best efforts of his pupils in the work to which he calls them, and making the discipline of the school, which is always excellent, take care of itself, with little or no apparent effort on his part.

The course of study is designed particularly to give instruction in higher English branches, and such a general education as shall prepare our young men for the requirements of business. It covers three years and in the main branches taught is as follows:

FIRST YEAR,

First Term, Arithmetic, Book Keeping, English Grammar.
 Second Term, Algebra, English Language, Natural History.
 Third Term, Algebra, Nat. Philosophy, Physiology.

SECOND YEAR,

First Term, Algebra, Latin, Physical Geography.
 Second Term, Astronomy, Latin, Geometry.
 Third Term, Geometry, Latin, Chemistry.

THIRD YEAR,

First Term, Geometry, Mental Philosophy, Geology.

Second Term, Trigonometry, Moral Philosophy, English Literature.

Third Term, Surveying, Political Economy, Botany.

Exercises in vocal culture, composition and declamation, and writing are given through the entire course. An examination of this course shows that special attention is given to Mathematics, and that time enough is given to the Natural Sciences to make a good beginning in each of them. It is not attempted to include an extended course in Latin, but simply to afford the opportunity to broaden the training in language, give a more thorough understanding of Grammar, and some knowledge of derivation. Eight young men were graduated last June, sixteen were admitted in September. It is to be regretted that a larger number do not accept the advantage which this school affords, for securing the training needed for business and the practical duties of good citizenship. Under the administration of the present Principal the school holds a high rank. It is hoped that the young men and their parents, more generally than they have done, will see the advantage to be derived from the knowledge and discipline acquired here, and that in future years the number of those who enjoy the instructions given may be much increased.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Pupils are received into this school, upon examination, from the Intermediate schools. The large number that presented themselves last Summer, and passed the examination, so increased the size of the school as to make it unmanageable in the hands of any ordinary teacher. Nearly a hundred boys, at an age when they are, and ought to be, by nature uneasy and restless, present a formidable task to the one who undertakes to become their sole manager and instructor. Mr. French has shown himself fully equal to this difficult work. A high average of daily attendance has been maintained, the order of the school-room

has been excellent, and the instruction thorough and careful. The teacher has given to his pupils much time outside of the regular school hours, and thus shown his interest in keeping up the standard of scholarship. The pupils have been well instructed in all the branches taught, and have learned many things that cannot be derived from books alone. The personal influence of the teacher is of inestimable value to the boys at the age, when their characters are most easily impressed. Mr. French possesses the favor of stamping the image of his own energy, promptness, and earnestness upon his pupils. The moral standard is high and improving, and the general tone of the school-room is bracing and lively. Probably but few of our citizens fully realize how much a teacher like Mr. French, with from seventy-five to ninety boys under his charge, is worth to the cause of good morals and a law abiding spirit in our town.

SPRING STREET SCHOOL.

Miss Buckingham has fully sustained her past reputation, which was well won. She has made good use of the material placed in her hands. In the personal examination given in June, upon which the pupils were promoted, there was a readiness and thoroughness that were extremely gratifying.

Miss Conner resigned her position as teacher in the Primary department at the end of the Fall term. The Committee had a difficult task before them in securing one who would carry on the work, so well done for several years by Miss Conner. Miss Harvey who was elected to fill the vacancy has had previous experience in town, and is filling the place satisfactorily.

THE PLAINS INTERMEDIATE,

Miss Haley has continued in charge of the school. Her pupils have exhibited the results of patient care and skill. The daily work has been well done, and the pupils from this school who were examined for admission to the Seminary and the High School, showed a good practical knowledge of what they had been taught.

THE PLAINS PRIMARY.

Mrs. Burnham has shown herself well adapted to the work required of her in this school. She began to teach here in Sept. 1875, and has therefore been in her school for a shorter time than most of our teachers. The little boys and girls at once recognized in her one who would be their friend as well as their teacher. She has from the first admirably sustained both relations to her pupils. Her evident desire to promote the welfare of the school has been well fulfilled. Her taste and gentle management have kept her school in good condition, and secured constant progress.

THE GROVE STREET PRIMARY.

We can renew the commendation of Miss Dustin and her school that was expressed in the report of last year. Hardly a day passes in which there is not some new object presented to awaken the interest and quicken the zeal of the little learners. The scholars are kept busy and cheerful; they accomplish a good deal of hard work, and they do it without any of the fretting and worry that are the bane of many schools. The teacher is wholly in sympathy with her school, understands the needs of it, and studies in an intelligent conscientious way to meet those needs, and keep herself well informed about the best methods of teaching. It is rarely the case that a school is found in which the pupils so generally enjoy their studies, and which is so free from any appeal to motives that are degrading or likely to make the children over anxious. The best elements of the Kindergarten system have been joined to the ordinary school work, and as a result there is a healthful development of the capacities of the children.

HALL PLACE.

This school has greatly improved during the year under the instruction of Miss Caverno. The manners of the pupils and their appearance in recitation have completely changed for the better.

PROSPECT HILL.

Mrs. Davis had held this school well under control, and devoted herself with the best results, to the welfare of her pupils. There is complete sympathy between the teacher and taught, and the work goes on easily with constant progress.

SCHOOL STREET PRIMARY.

Miss Chase continued in charge of this school through the Summer while it was in the dwelling house on Front Street. At the beginning of the Fall term the new school-house was ready and the school was opened there under the instruction of Miss Dearborn. She has been very successful with her pupils and is devoting herself well to the interests of the school.

DISTRICT No. 3.

This School is made up of pupils who are scattered over a wide extent of territory, and some of them live a long way from the school-house.

Under the charge of Miss Norris during the Summer term the instruction was not wholly satisfactory. Miss Judkins during the Fall term conducted the school successfully.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Mrs. Bickford, who had been in this school the previous year, was the teacher during the Summer term. In the Fall term, Miss Larkin made a beginning of her work as a teacher. Though the numbers were very small, Miss Larkin showed her capacity to teach well. Of course where there are only four or five pupils, the relation between teacher and scholars can be more familiar than in a school of much larger numbers, and the same kind of discipline is not in all its details necessary or desirable. The scholarship shown by her upon her examination for a certificate, and the spirit of her instructions, make it evident that she well deserves a larger school.

DISTRICT No. 5.

The school in District No. 5 was kept twenty-one weeks of Spring and Autumn, and will close the Winter term about the 16th of March. The committee have good reason to approve the course of instruction followed by Miss Sinclair, and feel sure that if allowed to remain in charge of the school, a more decided improvement will be manifested. The position of teacher, always more or less trying, should be respected by every person in the district, and that parent makes a great mistake who allows his child to disregard, in the least degree, the reasonable requirements of a fair-minded teacher. If questions arise, justice demands a hearing from both sides, and the committee is the only party to whom complaints should be made. Children certainly are not benefitted by hearing prejudiced statements about their teacher, and the progress is often effectually checked by the thoughtless criticisms of those whose duty is to help in every possible way.

DISTRICT No. 6.

In District No. 6, the school has been kept 22 weeks in Summer, and Autumn, and six weeks of Winter term, ending Feb. 16. Miss Kimball the teacher, has succeeded well in exciting an interest among the scholars, and the committee are pleased to note improvements in deportment as well as in recitations.

This school, and indeed all of our primary schools are sadly wanting in apparatus for the special benefit of the younger scholars. Every one must see that a daily session of five to six hours is a serious matter to a child just learning to spell out words of one syllable. He cannot keep still, and give his attention to such work for any length of time; there must be variety, and a few dollars laid out in books of pictures of animals, or birds, and in blocks, cards &c., such as are found in all the best primary schools of our country, would go very far to aid our teachers in imparting useful knowledge to these little people, while they tend to keep them interested in their school.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the past year there have been improvements in school buildings. An effort was made in the last report to set forth some existing defects, and an appeal was made for better rooms and better ventilation. There was a prompt and generous response. An additional lot of land was purchased for the Spring Street School, a new outbuilding was erected, the interior of the house was improved, and in every way greater comfort was secured. Repairs were made on the other school-houses, and the Robinson ventilators were applied to most of them. With a little caution and supervision on the part of the teachers, the rooms can now be kept properly warmed and ventilated, and safe for the health of the pupils. Besides these repairs a new house has been built on School Street for a Primary School. The only place that is now crowded so much as to need attention is the Grammar School. Here, from the whole number of ninety-one, there has been an average attendance of eighty-three. If the number of pupils continues so large as it has been, there will be need of dividing the school or giving to Mr. French an assistant teacher. Another teacher would call for another room, which, perhaps, might be joined to the present Grammar school-room. It was proposed, at the beginning of the Fall term, to allow a part of the lowest class in the Grammar School to remain in the Plains Intermediate School and take the same studies that Mr. French's scholars were taking. This plan, however, did not seem to meet the approval of the parents of the pupils, and it was thought best not to insist upon a course that would cause permanent discontent. We call the attention of the District to this subject, and trust that the best means may be applied to relieve the crowded condition of the room.

During the past year our schools have been interrupted and deeply afflicted as they have hardly ever been before. The terrible diphtheria that prevailed in the early part of the Winter, cut down some of the brightest and best of our precious children. Next to the stricken homes their absence is felt in our school-

rooms. Parents were justly anxious about exposing their children to danger of contagion, and the diminished attendance in some of our schools during the Winter term is thus accounted for.

The out-buildings in some of the districts require attention to make them more convenient and decent. This is a point that has previously been touched upon in other reports, and in which great improvement has been made since the last report was presented. We hope those who have neglected this subject will follow the example of others who have made the much needed improvement.

Several of the schools had special exercises at the close of the Summer term, to which parents and friends were invited. They were of great interest to the pupils and their friends and we believe might well be introduced into all our schools. There has been no effort to present in two or three hours the result of a year's work nor anything like a special examination; a few recitations and short dialogues varied with singing and the repeating from memory of brief selections, have made an occasion that the children will not soon forget. Anything that will bring parents into the schoolroom, face to face with the teacher and scholars, is of value in many ways, and promotes the interests of teachers and pupils alike.

We believe the schools are, on the whole, in a better condition than they were a year ago. We are convinced that much of the improvement is due to the wisdom and liberality of District No. 1 in making needful improvements on school buildings, and the public spirit of the town at large in the increased appropriation made for school purposes. There is need of constant care and effort to sustain them in their present good condition, and to secure still further improvement and a wider interest in what our schools are doing; to this end we invite the aid of our fellow-citizens. Respectfully submitted,

ALBERT C. PERKINS,
CHARLES BURLEY,
GEO. A. TITCOMB.

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REPORT

OF THE

Prudential Committee of School District No. 1.

For the Year Ending March 17, 1877,

RECEIPTS.

Rec'd From Selectmen of Exeter,	\$7052 57
Balance from Prudential Committee, 1875,	8 15
Tuition High and Grammar Schools,	
Rec'd from John J. Scammon,	\$35 00
Charles N. Healey,	0 00
David C. Hawes,	40 00
Richard Scammon, 1875,	10 00
“ “ 1876,	10 00
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	\$125 00
Rec'd from Mr. Brown, Old Shed Prospect Hill,	\$8 75
Mr. J. P. Elkins, Shed Hall Place,	\$5 00
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	\$7199 47

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Mr. Albion Burbank,	\$1600 00
Mr. Sperry French,	1500 00
Miss Maria A. Buckingham,	450 00
Clara A. Haley,	450 00
Miss Sarah Caverno,	390 00
Miss Josephine A. Dustin,	360 00
Miss Mary A. Burnham,	324 00
Mrs. Kate H. Davis,	324 00
Miss Fannie E. Conner,	250 00
Miss Annie R. Dearborn,	216 00
Miss Ellen M. Chase,	108 00
Miss Jennie Harvey,	110 00
Town of Exeter, rent land,	30 00
Stephen Dudley, sawing wood,	1 50
National Granite State Bank, interest,	34 10
J. W. Moulton, wood,	3 50
J. C. Dutch, wood,	7 00
G. W. Weston,	1 25
Mrs. Lois Atherton, cleaning school houses,	22 00
Mrs. E. B. Chase, storage of desks,	1 50
J. L. Hammett, maps,	24 30
Boston & Maine, freight,	1 95
C. H. Palmer, repairs,	1 50
Samuel Greenleaf, sawing wood,	9 25
J. D. P. Wingate, printing report,	5 00
Steele & Carlisle, supplies,	24 09
Stephen A. Crummett, labor,	1 95
Christopher Elliott, labor,	1 70
Wm. H. Harris, wood.	30 81
D. M. Quimby, repairing clock,	1 50
Steele & Carlisle, stove,	13 30
John W. Getchell, hardware and stove,	39 80

Paid Kelly & Gardner, supplies,	20 20
John H. Caswell, sawing wood,	18 75
Wm. H. Harris, wood,	7 50
John C. Dutch, wood,	66 25
Zebulon G. Thyng, wood,	13 50
Care of school-rooms,	56 59
L. B. Smith, wood,	26 00
Jewett Conner, wood,	18 00
W. E. Talbot, wood,	36 00
Eben Folsom & Co., keys,	50
Thomas G. Lang, sawing wood,	9 50
William A. Moore, " "	9 10
Charles Lane,	20
Porter & Thyng, supplies,	1 82
George E. Lane, "	15 73
George W. Wiggin, tuition received from Richard Scammon,	10 00
Daniel Sanborn, shoveling snow,	3 00
J. C. Dutch, wood,	3 50
Brown & Warren, wood,	2 00
J. L. Hammett, globe and blackboard,	35 00
George W. Wiggin, wood,	12 00
Assignees of W. O. Haskell & Son, settees,	11 25
Revenue and postage stamps,	1 50

\$6715 89

OUTSTANDING BILLS FOR 1875.

Paid George W. Wiggin, wood,	\$217 00
Town of Exeter, rent of land,	30 00
Osgood Marsh,	2 18
Nathan T. Batchelder & Son, rent,	72 00
Steele & Carlisle,	23 56

Paid Ammi R. Wiggin,	6 40	
D. M. Quimby,	4 00	
Exeter Iron Foundry,	2 25	
Kelly & Gardner,	50 63	
George E. Lane,	40 29	
Wm. B. Morrill, clock,	4 00	
		<hr/>
		\$452 31
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		\$7168 20
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Total amount of Receipts,	\$7199 47	
“ “ “ Expenditures,	\$7168 20	
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Balance in hands of Committee,	\$31 27	

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS.

At a District Meeting held July 1, the following sums were voted:

Five Hundred Dollars to purchase the Batchelder lot for the location of a Primary School-house.

Fifteen Hundred Dollars to build a new Primary School-house on the Batchelder lot.

Twenty-five Hundred Dollars to repair and improve School Buildings.

Three Hundred Dollars to purchase land for enlarging the Spring Street lot.

In accordance with the above votes the Prudential Committee have expended the following sums:

Paid Josiah Batchelder, for land,	\$500 00
George W. Weston, recording deed,	70
Brown & Warren, contract,	1039 82

Paid Nathan T. Batchelder & Son, contract,	200 00
Assignees of Wm. O. Haskell & Son, desks,	76 08
" " table,	10 00
Boston & Maine Railroad Company, freight,	1 30
Telegraphing,	40
The heirs of Nathaniel Gilman, for land	300 00
Brown & Warren, Grove Street,	27 00
U. S. Ventilator Co., ventilators,	260 00
Seavey & Co., Register,	26 78
George W. Weston, recording deed,	1 00
Brown & Warren, High and Grammar,	24 00
Assignees of Wm. O. Haskell & Son, B. B. paper,	4 00
Perkins Express Company,	1 65
Boston & Maine Railroad Company, freight,	8 00
Stult & Co., hardware,	10 00
Stephen A. Crummett, labor,	2 07
Charles E. Davis, hanging paper,	15 16
W. O. Perkins, painting,	88 50
George D. Crummett, labor,	5 38
C. W. Young, contract,	460 00
" stock and labor,	105 80
Asa Jewell, specifications,	22 00
B. J. Perkins, pumps, &c.,	19 00
Porter & Thyng, room paper	23 48
John Flood, labor,	10 12
Charles Flood, labor,	8 25
Smith & Palmer, contract, &c.,	266 57
Weeks & Staples, contract,	110 00
" stock and labor,	91 20
J. W. Hall, labor,	2 00
Rowell & Sleeper, posts,	4 60
Interest,	111 11
John Titon, gravel,	17 00
Wm. W. West, repairing pumps, &c.,	8 25

C. W. Young, stock and labor,	15 82
L. M. Watson & Son, painting,	20 50
Samuel Holmes, stock and labor,	95 22
Thomas G. Lang, labor,	6 09
Anni R. Wiggin, repairs,	28 76
Joseph Staples, gravel,	24 00
Samuel Holmes, stock and labor,	16 50
Exeter Iron Foundry, iron sinks,	4 00
Jacob Carlisle, lumber,	6 24
John W. Getchell, hardware,	1 88
Charles Marselles, printing,	4 00
Kelly & Gardner, hardware, &c.,	19 22
County of Rockingham, expense on fence,	25 35
Charles O. Smith, labor,	10 00
Brown & Warren, labor,	16 90
J. L. Hammett, desks for Grammar,	198 00
B. G. Purington, setting glass,	50
Revenue stamps,	1 30
John G. C. Lord, setting glass,	75
Palmer & Taylor, labor,	2 60
J. L. Hammett, desks Grammar,	19 00
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	\$4378 00

Total amount of special appropriations,	\$4800 00
Total amount of expenditures, including interest acc't,	\$4378 00
Cost of new school-house,	\$1239 82

All of which is Respectfully Submitted,

JOSEPH W. MERRILL, Jr.,) Prudential
GEO. A. WENTWORTH,	
W. N. DOW,) Committee.



